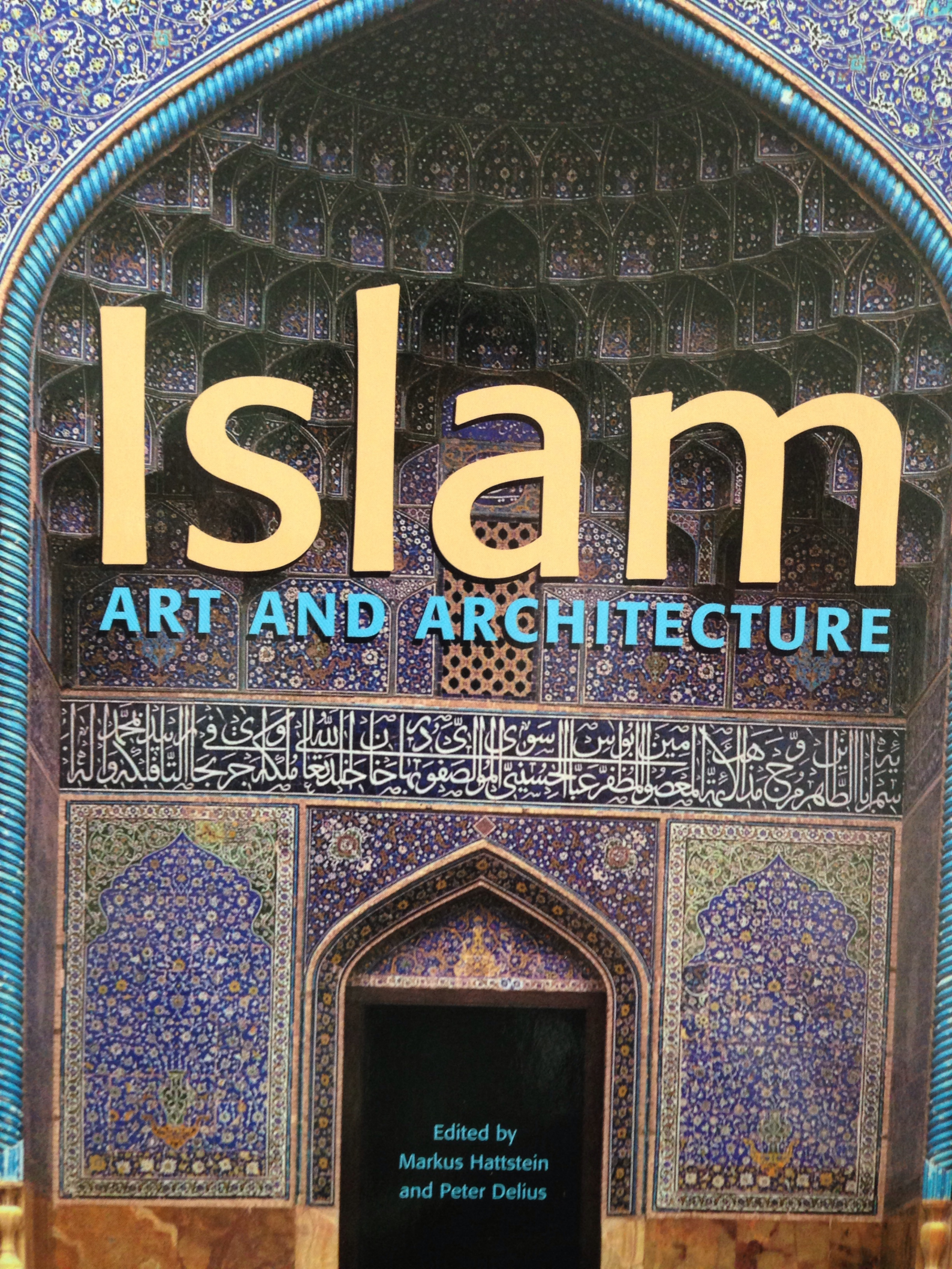

Islam

ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Edited by
Markus Hattstein
and Peter Delius

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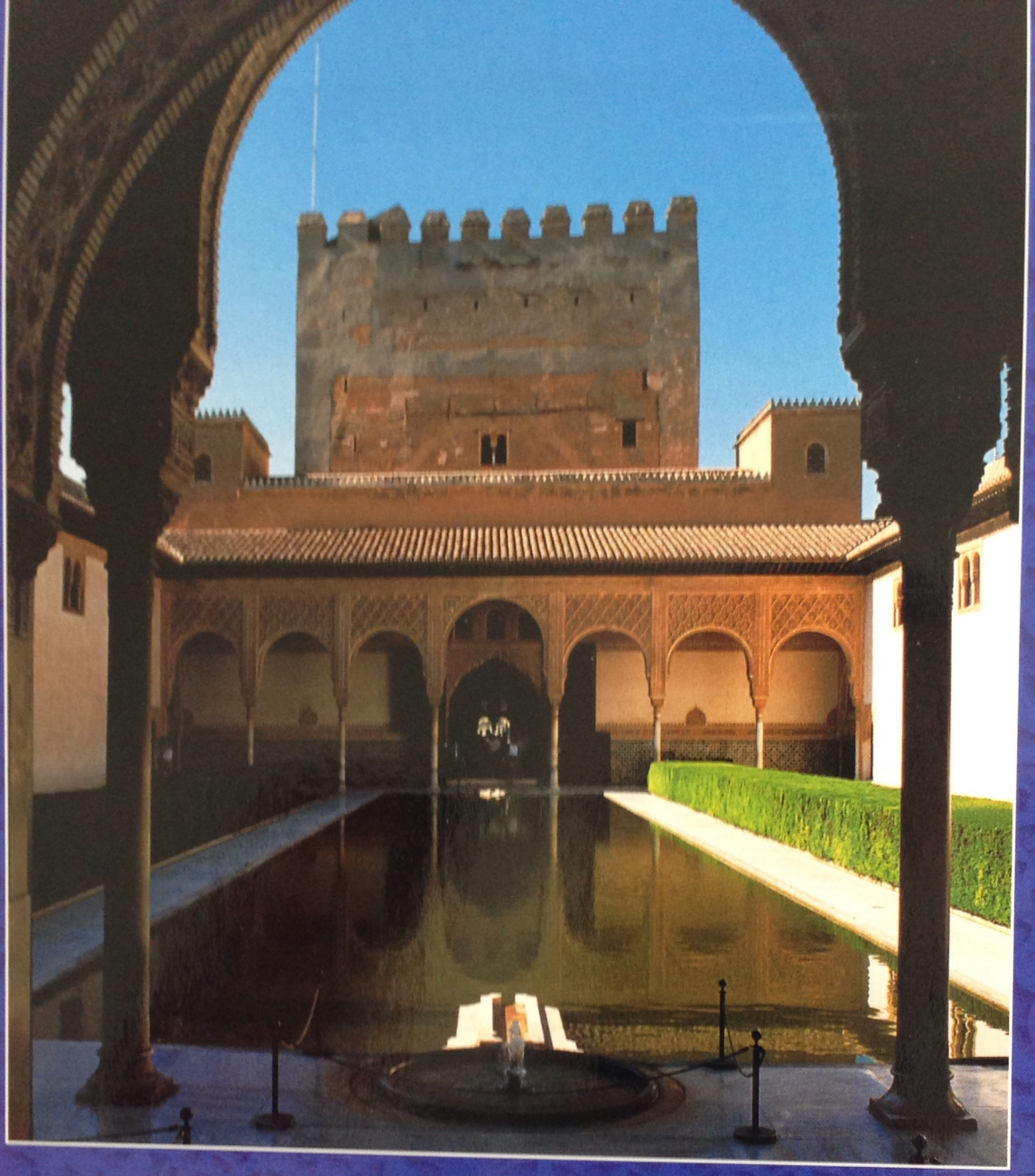

The rapid expansion of Islam in its early days encouraged a unique absorption and integration of disparate cultural forms and traditions. This book follows the historical development of the Islamic regions and their ruling dynasties, and illustrates their greatly varied forms of artistic expression from the birth of the religion to the present day. Basic architectural elements demonstrate, in their diverse modes of execution, the independence of regional building traditions. This impulse also inspires the colorful and fantastical book illustrations and calligraphy, sumptuous tapestries, extravagant metalwork, ceramics, and jewelry produced by the variety of Islamic cultures.

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Sheikh Lutfallah Mosque in Isfahan, 1603–1619
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Court of the Myrtles in the Comares Palace, Alhambra, Granada
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